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Date _____
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Clerk _____
Comm. Amdt. _____

AMENDMENT NO. _____

Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 2959*

House Bill No. 3201

by deleting all language following the enacting clause and by substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as "The State Park Funding Act of 1998".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 11, Chapter 3, is amended by adding Sections 3 through 5 of this act as a new Part 3 thereto.

SECTION 3.

(a) There is created a special agency account in the state general fund to be known as the "state park fund", hereinafter referred to in this act as the "fund".

(b) Any fund balance remaining unexpended at the end of a fiscal year in the fund shall be carried forward into the subsequent fiscal year.

(c) Interest accruing on investments and deposits of the state park fund shall be returned to the general fund at the end of each fiscal year.

(d) Unless otherwise specified in this act, the funds realized from operations, fees, or from any other revenue generated from the operation of state parks under the control or supervision of the division of parks, shall be deposited in the fund. No part of the fund shall be diverted to the general fund or any other public fund. Any funds generated from seizure of contraband, fines, penalties, and forfeitures generated from illegal activity on property managed by the division of parks shall be deposited in the fund.

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(e) Monies in the fund shall be invested by the state treasurer in accordance with the provisions of Section 9-4-603. The fund shall be administered by the commissioner of environment and conservation.

(f) Monies in the fund shall only be expended and obligated in accordance with appropriations made by the general assembly.

(g) Monies in the fund shall only be expended in accordance with the provisions of this act.

(h) Any funds appropriated by the general assembly for the operation, maintenance, equipment, renovation, expansion or purchase of state parks, shall be deposited in the fund.

(i) The fund is authorized to accept federal, state, local and private funds and donations.

SECTION 4. The fund shall be used for expenditures for state parks, including, but not limited to:

(1) The administration of state parks, including the payment of salaries and benefits to employees engaged in such administration;

(2) The purchase of lands and rights therein suitable for management by the division of state parks;

(3) The renovation, equipment, maintenance and upkeep of managed property and all buildings and structures related thereto;

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(4) The construction of suitable buildings, recreation facilities, parking lots, trails, campgrounds, picnic areas, scenic areas, cabins, inns, golf courses, swimming facilities, restaurants, marinas, docks and structures necessary for the use and enjoyment of state parks;

(5) The promotion, advancement and efficient management of state parks and their resources, including educational activities to that end; and

(6) Any other purpose determined by the commissioner of environment and conservation to be necessary or beneficial to implement the provisions of this title.

SECTION 5. It is the legislative intent that people who use the state parks be given the opportunity to voluntarily contribute to the maintenance, renovation, promotion, expansion, recreational and educational programs, and operations of such parks. Each state park shall provide a collection point, box or other suitable arrangement at which park users may make donations to the state park fund with the exception of those state parks that the commissioner of the department of environment and conservation may certify as not being suitable for the collection of such fee.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 1998, the public welfare requiring it.

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